## **U.S.** Department of Justice



United States Attorney
Eastern District of Wisconsin

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## News Summary: W-2 Executive Charged in Gary George Conspiracy

The president of the W-2 organization Opportunities Industrial Center of Greater Milwaukee (OIC) has been indicted by a federal grand jury for conspiring to provide kickbacks and other improper payments to then-state senator Gary R. George.

Carl A. Gee (DOB: 3/8/54), of 1920 West Capitol Drive, Milwaukee) faces up to five years imprisonment and \$250,000 in fines, said United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic.

George previously has pleaded guilty to a charge alleging that attorney Mark Sostarich gave George approximately \$270,000 in kickbacks from legal fees paid by OIC. Sostarich previously pleaded guilty to paying George kickbacks on legal fees from another organization, the Police Athletic League.

According to the Indictment, Gee, on behalf of OIC, allegedly hired Sostarich and approved payments to him, knowing that George would receive portions of those funds.

The Indictment also alleges that Gee recommended that a subsidiary of OIC invest \$200,000 in a television station controlled by the George family. According to the indictment, after the investment, Gee personally received \$50,000 from George as repayment of a prior investment in the television station.

"The Indictment alleges that Carl Gee and OIC were providing Gary George with hundreds of thousands of dollars at the same time Gary George had oversight of W-2 and other contracts while in the Wisconsin State Senate," said Biskupic.

The case was investigated by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation and is being prosecuted by United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic and Assistant U.S. Attorney Gregory J. Haanstad.

The public is cautioned that an indictment is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute inference of his or her guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government established his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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